# FILED February 19, 2015 INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

### PETITIONER'S EXHIBIT B

IURC CAUSE NO. 44578 DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CHRISTINE E. SMITH FILED FEBRUARY 19, 2015

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
CHRISTINE E. SMITH
PRODUCT AND SERVICES MANAGER
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS LLC
ON BEHALF OF DUKE ENERGY INDIANA, INC.
CAUSE NO. 44578 BEFORE THE
INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

1	I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>			
2	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.		
3	A.	My name is Christine E. Smith and my business address is 400 South Tryon Street,		
4		Charlotte, North Carolina 28202.		
5	Q.	BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?		
6	A.	I am employed as Product and Services Manager of Direct Offer Programs by Duke		
7		Energy Carolinas LLC. Duke Energy Carolinas LLC is a wholly owned, indirect		
8		subsidiary of Duke Energy Corporation. Duke Energy Indiana, Inc. ("Duke Energy		
9		Indiana" or "Company") is a wholly owned, indirect subsidiary of Duke Energy		
10		Corporation.		
11	Q.	WHAT ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS PRODUCT AND SERVICES		
12		MANAGER?		
13	A.	As Product and Services Manager, I am responsible for the delivery of renewable and		
14		energy efficiency programs for all Duke Energy Corporation regulated entities, except		
15		Duke Energy Florida. In this role, I manage the marketing and operations of the		
16		programs.		

# 1 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL

# 2 BACKGROUND.

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A. I have a background in business and marketing, with expertise in marketing strategy, business development and customer relationship management. I received a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Masters in Business Administration (M.B.A.) from Wake Forest University. I started my career in financial services at two (2) large international banks, working in New York and London from 1992 to 2000. In 2002, I founded a marketing and distribution business working with several British based companies to develop their U.S. expansion. Since starting at Duke Energy in 2008, I have held various responsibilities in program management and new product development. Since 2009, I have been responsible for the business, regulatory and marketing aspects of GoGreen Indiana and managed the product life cycle for GoGreen through regulatory updates, renewal of Tariffs and price reduction enhancements.

# 15 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

16 A. The purpose of my Testimony is to explain and support the Company's request for
17 flexibility to consider the inclusion of Renewable Energy Credits ("RECs") from Duke
18 Energy Indiana's solar Power Purchase Agreements ("PPAs"), at issue in this proceeding,
19 in the Indiana GoGreen program for the benefit of customers participating in that
20 program.

# Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE GOGREEN PROGRAM.

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Starting in 2001, Duke Energy Indiana's predecessor company offered customers the
opportunity to voluntarily add \$1 per month to their electric bill to support two (2)
demonstration projects in Duke Energy Indiana's service territory. In 2006, the
Commission approved a Settlement Agreement between Duke Energy Indiana and the
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor ("OUCC"), wherein, Duke Energy Indiana
received authority to create the GoGreen program. GoGreen is a voluntary customer
program providing a convenient and affordable option for customers to invest in
renewable energy. GoGreen Indiana customers participate in and promote green power
generation, through their monthly electric utility bill, by paying \$0.90 per 100 kWh
block, with a minimum two (2) block monthly purchase. The GoGreen program offers a
competitively priced green power rate for retail customers by aggregating participation to
purchase volume Green-e certified wind RECs on the open competitive market. The
market price for RECs can fluctuate geographically for a specific type of REC and can
also vary across various types of renewable generation from wind to solar. Accordingly,
the collective amount of GoGreen funds received must be sufficient to purchase a load
matching level of RECs and continue supporting the GoGreen service offering. Under
the approved Settlement Agreement, the rate charged to GoGreen customers for
renewable energy can be adjusted to reflect market conditions by adjusting the price
and/or size of the green power blocks. The Company monitors contributions to fully
cover the cost of the program.
WHAT CHANGES TO THE GOGREEN PROGRAM ARE YOU MAKING IN
THIS FILING?

Q.

A.

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The Company proposes to continue the GoGreen program in compliance with the terms stated in the most recent Settlement Agreement approved by the Commission. The only changes proposed are: (i) as RECs from Duke Energy Indiana's solar generation projects located in Indiana become available, the GoGreen program would have the opportunity to purchase the Duke Energy Indiana certified RECs associated with any of the four (4) PPAs in Indiana on behalf of GoGreen participants at the established market price, rather than buying national RECs from an open marketplace; (ii) Duke Energy Indiana seeks approval to file its Annual Report on GoGreen under seal to maintain the confidentiality of REC pricing per the Duke Energy Indiana PPAs at issue in this proceeding; and (iii) the Company seeks approval for pricing flexibility in the event that it becomes necessary to increase the GoGreen rate above \$0.90 in order to provide sufficient funding to offset the cost of including locally generated solar RECs in the inventory portfolio.

A.

Specifically, Duke Energy Indiana seeks authority to increase the customer charge by no more than twenty-five percent (25%) with sixty (60) days advance notice to customers if such an increase is justified by demand for locally generated RECs.

Otherwise, there are no Tariff changes proposed at this time, provided the current program rate of \$0.90 per 100 kWh block will allow for the inclusion of Duke Energy Indiana solar RECs in the GoGreen portfolio. The Company will update the marketing messages to reflect the local renewable generation if supported by the GoGreen participants.

### Q. WHY ARE YOU PROPOSING THIS CHANGE AT THIS TIME?

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These changes will differentiate the GoGreen program as a program supporting local renewable energy, increase satisfaction and loyalty from its participants, provide a good market for renewable generation projects that need the support of REC buyers to get started, and generate economic benefits in Indiana. GoGreen Indiana has had modest growth over the years and to evolve the program, the next step would be to encourage customer participation and respond to the change in market conditions for renewable energy by investing in local solar renewable energy projects. (See Exhibit B-1 for GoGreen Indiana 5-year growth.)

Duke Energy Indiana GoGreen surveys and emails from participants indicate utility investment in renewable energy and in particular solar, is a priority for participants in the program. By adding this option, we are responding to customer demand. Adding locally generated RECs, where reasonable and feasible, will be a step forward in many ways for the program. If the changes are approved, GoGreen Indiana could offer customers the option to purchase locally generated renewable energy from solar RECs in the State of Indiana. In addition to the tangible environmental benefit, the availability of local RECs should increase customer satisfaction among the GoGreen participants. The ability to fund local renewable energy would be a significant and appealing benefit to current and new subscribers and this should increase program participation. As participation increases, there is more support for renewable energy projects in the state that provide economic and environmental benefits for all customers in the community.

### O. ARE YOU SPONSORING ANY EXHIBITS IN THIS PROCEEDING?

22 A. Yes, Petitioner's Exhibits B-1.

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1		II. <u>CONCLUSION</u>
2	Q.	WAS PETITIONER'S EXHIBIT B-1 PREPARED BY YOU OR AT YOUR
3		DIRECTION?
4	A.	Yes.
5	Q.	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY AT THIS
6		TIME?
7	A.	Yes.

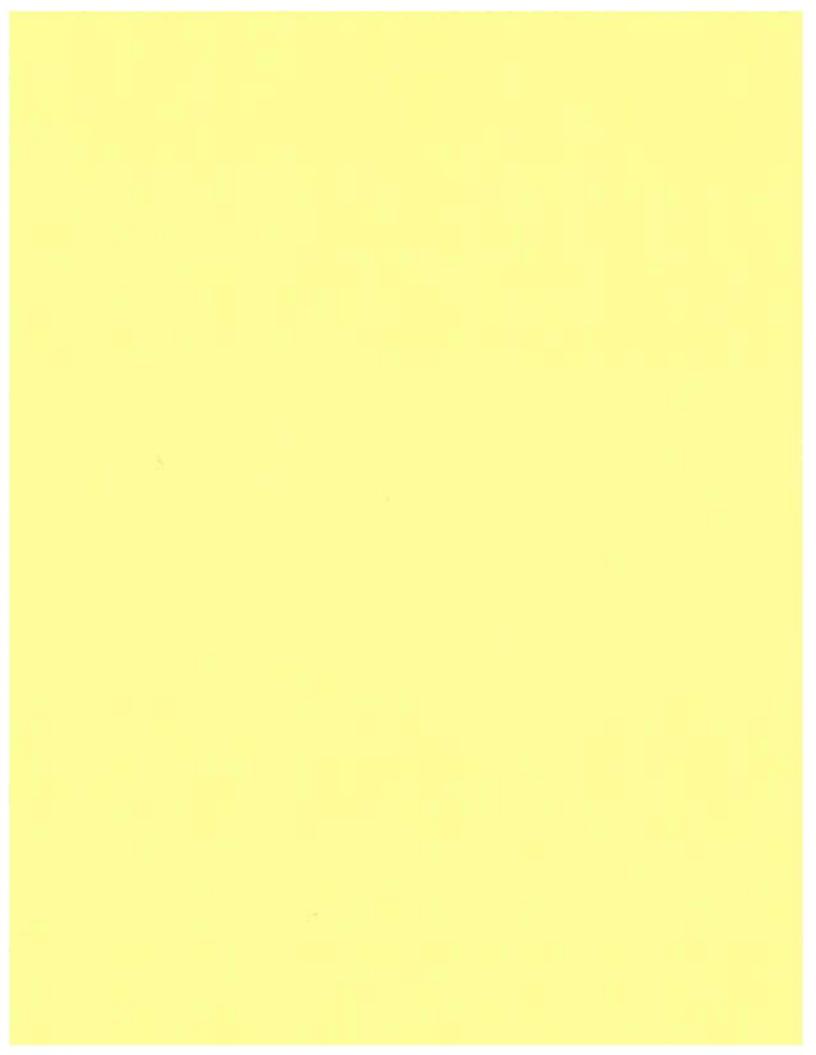
# **VERIFICATION**

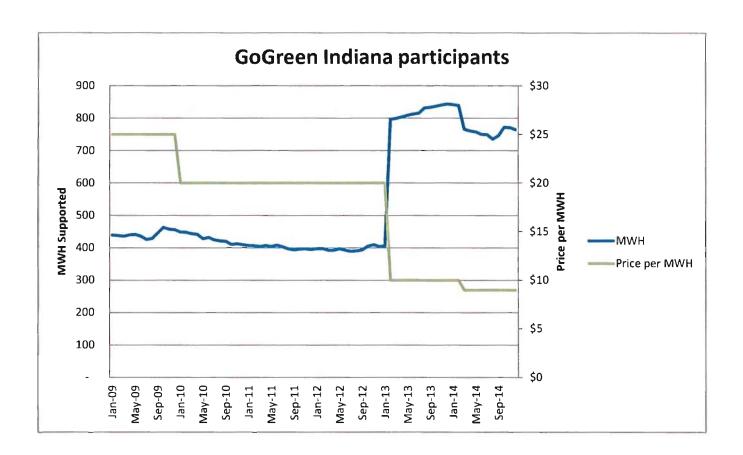
I hereby verify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing representations are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Dated: February 19, 2015

Signed: \_

Christine E. Smith





GoGreen	
Indiana	Annual MWH
2009	5,309
2010	5,143
2011	4,821
2012	4,766
2013	9,431
2014	9,258